WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Objectives for creating NAC

2572. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives behind creation of National Advisory Council **(NAC);**

(b) the details of composition of the NAC at its inception and as at present duly indicating details of regisnations/substitutions, if any and the issues it dealt with during these periods especially during the current year till February, 2007;

(c) the details of funds allotted and expenses incurred on account of the NAC, year-wise;

(d) whether any exercise to review the utility of the NAC *vis-a-vis* the objectives behind its creation within the Government has been conducted;

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating their outcome; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) the NAC was constituted to provide inputs for the formulation of policy by the Government and provide support to the Government in monitoring the progress of implementation of the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP).

(b) The NAC headed by a Chairperson was constituted on 31 st May 2004. Of the twelve Members initially appointed, one expressed inability to join.

While the terms of two Members did not come up for renewal in June 2005, of one Member in June 2006 and one Member resigned in August 2006, two new Members were nominated to the Council in June 2005.

The Present Membership of the Council is as follows:

(i) Dr. V. Krishnamurthy

(ii) Shri Jairam Ramesh

(iii) Prof. C.H. Hanumantha Rao

(iv) Dr. D. Swaminadhan

(v) Dr. N.C. Saxena

(vi) Dr. Madhav Chavan

(vii) Dr. A.K. Shiva Kumar

(viii) Prof. Mrinal Miri

(ix) Ms. Sehba Hussain

The discussions in the NAC have covered a range of subjects, including the Right to Information, the National Rural employment Guarantee Programme, the Universalization of Elementary Education, the Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Scheme, the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, watershed and Wasteland Development Programmes, Modernization of Revenue Administration, Revitalization of Indian Agriculture, Integrated Energy Policy and Issues relating, amongst others, to Tribal Development, Equality of Women, Judicial Reforms, Workers in the Unorganized Sector, Governnance, Resettlement and Rehabilitation and the Health Sector. Between April 2006 - February 2007, the discussions held have addressed, *inter alia,* the ICDS, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the MDM, the National Rural Health Mission, the Comprehensive Modernization of Land Records, the National River Conservation Programme, the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, the use of GEO Textiles and the Poverty Alleviation Programmes.

(c) The information in respect of allotment of funds and the expenditure incurred for the Office of the NAC is shown below:

Financial Year	Budget Estimates (Rs. in crores)	Expenditure incurred (Rs. in crores)
2004-05	1.56	0.85
2005-06	1.34	0.68
2006-07	1.41	0.48 (upto 28th Feb. 2007)

(d) to (f) Considering the need to continually review the progress of the NCMP and the importance of ensuring timely follow-up action, the term of the NAC has been renewed by the Government from time to time. The Right to Information Act came into force in June 2005 and the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in September 2005. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act and the Hindu Succession

(Amendment) Act to give women equal rights in inheritance of property, including agricultural land, also came into force in September 2005.

A National Rural Health Mission was launched in April 2005 and a dedicated, non-lapsable fund called the "Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh" constituted in November 2005 for utilization, exlcusively, for the SSA and the MDM Scheme. In the first phase of expansion of the ICDS, orders sanctioning an additional 466 Projects and 1.88 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) were issued in the financial year, 2005-06. In the second phase of expansion, 173 additional Projects, 1.07 lakh AWCs and 25,961 mini-AWCs are being covered. The MDM Scheme was revised in June 2006 and the nutritional content enhanced to 450 calories and 12 grams of protein. All States and Union Territories are implementing the Programme.

Atomic energy target set for 2020

2573. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for atomic energy production in vision 2020 looking to the potential of atomic energy of the country;

(b) the total production of atomic energy as on 31.12.2006 as against the target of 5000 MW in the year 2000;

(c) the plans of Nuclear Power Corporation and National Thermal Power Corporation to reach the target set for 2020; and

(d) whether it is a fact that some environmentalists are opposing the establishment of Atomic Power Plants in the country;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) the document "Long Term vision of Department of Atomic Energy -Vision 2020" envisages reaching a total installed nuclear power capacity of 20,000 MWe by the year 2020.

(b) the document envisaged reaching a total nuclear power capacity of 3260 MWe by December 2006. The actual achievement in this regard has been 3900 MWe.

(c) Kaiga-3 (220 MWe) has been synchronized to the grid on 11th April 2007 and the total nuclear power capacity as on date is 4120 MWe.